Well, your suggestion is well taken and we will definitely consider it. But in the meanwhile, as we have said about sugar, we have recently allowed sugar to be exported to Pakistan from this country when they made a request, to help our production and our marketing strategy.

श्री भूपेन्द्र सिंह मान: सर, जब पाकिस्तान ने जो रुकावटें लगाई हुई थीं, वे लिफ्ट कीं तो हमारी सरकार की तरफ से ट्रेड खोलने में रुकावटें खड़ी की गईं। अखबार में आया कि अमृतसर से एग्रीकल्चर प्रोड्यूस भेजने के ऊपर रुकावटें लगाई गई हमारी सरकार की तरफ से। ये रुकावटें क्यों लगीं जब कि यह हमारे देश के हित में है कि बाई-लेट्रल ट्रेड शुरू किया जाए?

SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH: Well, as and when a request comes, we give them. On their request only we are giving them. Recently they asked for potatoes and tomatoes. When a request comes from Pakistan for various items of agriculture, we are definitely helping our producers so that they have the advantage of supplying these items and exporting them to Pakistan. It is only on Pakistan's request that we are doing it. On their willing to take them, we are obliging our people to supply them to those countries.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Production By Sugar Mills In Gujarat

*63. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state;

(a) the annual average production in sugar mills than the national average;

(b) whether the production of the State is less than the national average;

(c) if so, the total production, year-wise during the last three years as against the national average;

(d) the total quantity of sugarcane which is being made available to the aforesaid sugar mills each year as against the national average; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to bring the present production of sugarcane in Gujarat at par with the national average?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLICE DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b):— The annual production of sugar mills depends upon serveral factors, namely, installed capacity, price and availability of cane, number of days factories worked etc. The sugar season 1995-96 is still continuing. The latest annual average production of sugar mills is, therefore, available only in respect of 1994-95 season. The annual average production for the season 1994-95 of sugar factories in Gujarat was 0.42 lakh tonnes per factory as against All-India average for the corresponding period worked out 0.33 lakh tonnes per factory.

(c) and (d):— The information regarding the cane crushed and the yearwise production of sugar is as under:—

(Lakh tonnes)

Sugar Season (October-Sept.)	No. of Sugar Factories		Sugarcane Crushed				Sugar Production			
			Total		Average Per factory		Total		Average Per factory	
	Gujarat	All-India	Gujarat	All-India	Gujarat	All-India	Gujarat	All-India	Gujarat	All-India
1992-93	18	420	66.25	1029.71	3.68	2.45	7.51	106.09	0.42	0.25
1993-94	18	430	74.42	928.05	4.13	2.28	8.26	98.24	0.46	0.23
1994-95	18	437	65.12	1475.98	3.62	3.38	7.59	146.43	0.42	0.33

NOTE: Based on an average yearly installed number of sugar factories.
All-India average includes information in respect of Gujarat also.

(e) Does not arise.

Decline in Iron Ore Procurement by MMTC

66. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a sharp decline in the procurement of iron ore by MMTC from Banspani-Barjamda sector in Orissa;

(b) if so, the total quantum of iron ore procured by MMTC from Banspani-Barjamda sector during last three years; year-wise;

(c) the reasons for the sharp decline in the procurement; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the procurement of iron ore from the Banspani-Barjamda sector for export purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLABULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b) The total quantity of iron ore procured from Banspani-Barajamda Sector has declined as follows:

(in lakh metric tonnes)

Year	Total for Orissa State	Banspani-Barajamda Sector
1993-94	11.24	8.15
1994-95	11.09	6.99
1995-96	07.37	6.00

(c) The reasons are:

Higher demand from the domestic industries within the Region;

Due to modification in the EXIM Policy 1992—97, iron ore mine-owners from the Region have been permitted to export iron ore directly and therefore were not able to supply the required quantities to MMTC for exports.

(d) Steps taken by MMTC to increase the procurement of iron ore from this sector include:

(i) increase in the price of lumpy iron ore by 10% for supplies during 1995-96.

(ii) removal of quantity restrictions.

(iii) commitment from the mine-owners for assured supplies in 1995-96.

(iv) increase in transport subsidy by 10% for Koira sector.